

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: McGill-Ruth Consolidated Sewer and Water General Improvement District
P.O. Box 1376
McGill, NV 89318

Permit Number: NEV87047

Location: Ruth Treatment Ponds for the Town of Ruth, White Pine County
1 mile west of U.S. 50 on S.R. 485
Latitude: 39° 17' 00"N, Longitude: 114° 58' 39"W
Township 16N, Range 62E, Section 3

General: The McGill-Ruth Consolidated Sewer & Water General Improvement District submitted an application for renewal and modification of the Ruth Treatment Ponds for the Town of Ruth in May 2007. The present treatment system consists of four (4) unlined facultative ponds (ponds #1, #2, #3 & #4), which are connected in series. Influent flow into the ponds is by gravity from the Town of Ruth. Two ponds (ponds #1 & #2) are approximately 0.55 acre each and were constructed in 1954. Ponds #3 & #4 were constructed in 1974 and are 1.1 acres each. The design capacity of the present system is 0.04 million gallons per day (MGD). The Permittee proposes to construct two new HDPE lined facultative ponds (1.5 acres and 0.8 acre) at the headworks and line (HDPE) the existing pond #1. Existing pond #1 would be used as a finishing pond prior to discharging the effluent to the current ponds #2, #3 and #4, which will be used as percolation basins. The ponds, upon construction, will be renamed, with the two new ponds becoming ponds #1 & #2, and the existing ponds, #1, #2, #3 & #4, becoming ponds #3, #4, #5 & #6, respectively. Upon completion of the modifications the capacity of the treatment facility will increase to 0.06 MGD. Groundwater in the immediate area is reported by the Permittee to be 200+ feet below ground surface. Therefore, groundwater monitoring will not be required. In 2005 the Nevada State Demographer reported the population of Ruth to be 394 residents. Commercial businesses in Ruth include a bar, a general store and a laundromat. Ruth is located approximately 6 miles northwest of Ely.

Flow: Flow is measured at the headworks with an ultrasonic flow meter manufactured by QCEC. This meter was installed in 2006 and replaced a stilling well float meter. The design treatment capacity of this facility is presently 0.040 MGD, but will increase to 0.060 MGD upon completion and approval of proposed modifications. .

Receiving Water Characteristics: The receiving water from this treatment facility is groundwater of the State via percolation from ponds #1, #2, #3 & #4. When the proposed modifications are completed, newly named ponds #4, #5 & #6 will serve as the percolation basins.

Rationale for Permit Requirements: The Division's rationale for the proposed monitoring conditions is as follows:

- *Flow:* Influent flow is metered and totalized to ensure that the design capacity of the treatment

facility is not exceeded.

- **CBOD:** The Division requires the monitoring of influent and effluent Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD or inhibited BOD) as an indication of treatment performance in the ponds. The Division's secondary treatment CBOD standard for ponds is 45 mg/L for daily maximum values.
- **TSS:** The Division's secondary treatment standard for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in pond system effluent is 90 mg/L.
- **pH:** The Division requires the pond effluent to meet a pH standard of between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units, consistent with other regulated groundwater dischargers in Nevada.

Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:

Table 1: Plant Discharge Limitations

PARAMETER	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-Day Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD (Influent)	0.04 (0.06) ¹	0.04 (0.06) ¹	Continuous	Flow Meter
CBOD, mg/L (Influent)	Monitor & Report		Quarterly	Discrete
CBOD, mg/L (Effluent)	-----	45	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS, mg/L (Influent)	Monitor & Report		Quarterly	Discrete
TSS, mg/L (Effluent)	-----	90	Quarterly	Discrete
Total Nitrogen, mg/L (Effluent)	Monitor & Report		Quarterly	Discrete
pH, Std. Units (Effluent)	Between 6.0 & 9.0		Quarterly	Discrete

¹: Flow discharge limits shall increase to 0.06 MGD upon completion and approval of proposed modifications to treatment facility.

Schedule of Compliance: The Permittee shall submit the following items to the Division for review and approval (**all compliance deliverables shall be addressed to the attention of the Compliance Coordinator, Bureau of Water Pollution Control**):

- Within ninety (90) days of the permit issuance date (**Month XX, 2007**), the Permittee shall submit an updated Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual prepared in accordance with the Division's WTS-2 guidance document: *Minimum Information Required for an Operations and Maintenance Manual*. The O&M Manual shall include a section on the modifications authorized by this permit.

- **By June 30, 2008**, the Permittee shall complete construction of the modifications (pond additions and ponds lining) authorized by the permit.
- **At least thirty (30) days prior to the use of the new ponds**, as authorized by this permit, the Permittee shall notify both the Compliance Coordinator and the Technical Services Branch (TSB) of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control of the Permittee's intent to activate the new ponds. The TSB shall approve the new ponds project prior to activation.
- **Within fourteen (14) days** of the activation of the new ponds project, the Permittee shall notify the Compliance Coordinator of such activation.

Procedures for Public Comment: The Notice of the Division's intent to issue (renew) a permit authorizing the operation of this treatment facility, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to **The Ely Times** and the **Elko Daily Free Press** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted (via postmarked mail or time-stamped faxes, e-mails, or hand-delivered items) to the Division is **November 9, 2007 by 5:00 P.M.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination: The Division has made the tentative determination to issue (renew) the proposed groundwater discharge permit for a period of five (5) years.

Prepared by: James T. Hogan.
Staff Engineer II
Bureau of Water Pollution Control

Date: October 2, 2007

Saved to: Ruth_FS_2007.doc